

September 11, 2002
Reflection Speech
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Our generation has never known an hour of tragedy such as the one we all experienced one year ago this morning.

We all watched in stunned disbelief as the planes hit the towers. Where innocent people were used as weapons against other innocent people. le

We came here together one week later, in the shadow of this grand unfurled flag, to seek sustenance as we consoled one another and to pray for the strength to rise to the tasks ahead.

And now one year later, we have mourned, we have felt uncertainty, we have supported our troops as they waged war, and we have seen the triumph of the American spirit.

We continue to be grateful for all the heroes that ran toward danger that day. Those were common people who found history that morning.

The temptation of any anniversary is just to look back. But we must also look forward. So while it is appropriate to have a ceremony of reflection, it is also necessary to have a ceremony of resolve.

The work of the civilized world is not done. We cannot fully honor the victims until justice is done. So this flag, which gave us consolation, now must give us the resilience to stay vigilant in the cause against terrorism.

Waukesha County is a great county, and we will continue to do our part in this crisis. I want to thank you for your donations of money and for the sacrifices you've made. Working together the American spirit has prevailed.